Gandhi Samiti and Gandhi Darshan regarding harassment faced by women employees; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF. M. G. K. MENON) : (a) No communication has been received from the organisation as named in the Question. However, representation from employees of Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti has been received.

(b) The matter is being looked into for appropriate action.

Production of 155mm Howitzers

1683. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether a top level team from Bofors, which visited New Delhi in July last to negotiate the terms for production of 155mm howitzers, has since completed its task;

(b) whether during the negotiations any talks were also held to seek a part of kick-back money; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. RAJA RAMANNA): (a) to (c) The discussions with the Bofors team which visited India in July-August 1989 were on issues relating to the Supply Contract and Licence Agreement, including the recovery of the amount paid by them in respect of the Supply Contract. However, the negotiations were inconclusive.

Manufacture of arms by India

1684. SHRI P. N. SUKUL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) what is the rank occupied by India in the Third World Countries in manufacturing arms; and

(b) what are the items of defence equipments in which India has become self-sufficient and the items in which it is still dependent on imports ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. RAJA RAMANNA) : (a) It is not possible to state with any degree of certainty the rank occupied by India in the Third World Countries in the manufacture of Arms. There are no positional yardsticks to compare Indian defence production on efforts related to its threat perception, with that of other countries.

(b) The country is self-sufficient in the production of Small Arms and Ammunitions; Tanks; Field Guns and their ammunitions; Ordnance Equipments; optical devices and clothing etc. The country is importing certain Missiles and Rockets till their production is established.

It would not be in the public interest to disclose further details.

Swiss Bank Accounts

1685. SHRI A. G. KULKARNI :
SHRI SURESH KALMADI :
SHRI VISHWASRAO RAMRAO PATIL :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to an article which appeared in the Statesman of the 28th January, 1990 under the caption "Swiss Banks no longer Ali Baba caves"; if so, what are the details of amounts kept in the Swiss accounts; and

(b) what are the names of the persons who paid the said amount into the secret accountst ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. RAJA RAMANNA) : (a) and (b). The Government has seen the article which appeared in the Statesman of 28th January, 1990 under the caption "Swiss Barks no longer Ali Baba caves".

An FIR had been lodged on 22-1-1990 in connection with the Bofors case. On 26-1-1990, the Swiss authorities have frozen six Swiss Bank accounts connected with the Bofors transaction. A Letter Rogatory has been issued to the Swiss authorities on 9-2-1990. Further investigations are in progress.

Resubmission of Bofors files to the Comptroller and Auditor General of India

1686. SHRI A. G. KULKARNI :
SHRI SURESH KALMADI :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Comptroller and Auditor General of India has stated that he has not received sufficient material previously and some papers were not furnished being kept away from his office;

(b) if so, whether the said files concerning "Bofors transaction" have been resubmitted to the Comptroller and Auditor General for further scrutiny; and

(c) what are the reasons for resubmitting the said files even when the report has already been tabled ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. RAJA RAMANNA) : (a) to (c) In September, 1989, a request was received from Audit to persue certain files of the Defence Ministry, pertaining to the Bofors Contract. It has been decided that the files relating to the Bofors transaction could be re-submitted to the Comptroller and Auditor General, if required by him, as a special case, in view of the nature of the transaction. However, Audit has not repeated its earlier request to be shown the files in question.

Missing files on Bofors

1687. SHRI A. G. KULKARNI:
SHRI SURESH KALMADI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news item which appeared in "The Week" dated the January 28, 1990 under the caption "A Bofors Recoil"; if so, whether any important files on Bofors are missing, including the next page which Prime Minister had read from the files and placed in the Lok Sabha in December, 1989; and

(b) whether Government are aware of the tendency of the bureaucrats to mislead Government by mis-placing the files; if so, the steps required to stop the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. RAJA RAMANNA): (a) and (b) The report in the news item which appeared in the "The Week" dated 28th January 1990 under the caption "A Bofors Recoil", that certain files on Bofors are missing, is not factually correct. No file or any part thereof, relating to 'Bofors' is missing or has been misplaced.

1688. [*Transferred to the 28th March, 1990*]

Circuses in the Country

1689. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of circuses in the country as on February 28, 1990, Statewise; and

(b) what are the details of the steps taken by Government to encourage circuses in the country and the incentives given by Government in this connection?